

The Nebraska Advertiser

FRIDAY, JAN. 31, 1896.

While the politicians are using up much transportation going to and from the capital to see how the land lays, all is quiet in Grand Army circles. There is no opposition to speak of to the election of Captain Culver as department commander. He is the present senior vice-commander and when he vacates that position John A. Ehrhardt, of Stanton, will undoubtedly step in. There is talk of conferring the junior vice-commandership on T. J. Majors.—State Journal.

Snags for the New Woman.

The new woman in Ohio finds that her responsibilities keep pace with her privileges. The other day Justice Brown, of Cleveland, decided that wives are legally responsible for the support of their husbands and families, provided the husbands are unable to furnish support. This is Ohio law, as the justice sees it. His decision is based upon an act passed in 1887. Naturally it is attracting much interest and comment. The case was that of a tailor who sued Marshall L. Shay and his wife for \$22 balance due on a suit of clothes. Shay once was active in business and finally failed in it. The tailor was refused payment of his bill on the ground that Shay was insolvent. His lawyers insisted that Mrs. Shay, being the owner of property, was liable for her husband's debts. The court held the point well taken. Many similar suits will be brought in Cleveland now.

TREASURE hunters of a new kind are at work at the bottom of the sea at Port Discovery, Wash. Two divers, employed by speculative citizens, are hunting through the wreck of the ship Warhawk, which was sunk there 14 years ago, for a considerable quantity of whisky which went down with her. The Warhawk took fire in the harbor soon after her arrival from San Francisco, and, to save other shipping, she was scuttled, and went down in deep water. Nothing was recovered from the wreck. The divers who started work a few days ago brought up a lot of canned goods, glassware and four barrels of whisky. The canned goods were spoiled, but the whisky was all right. They are now trying to recover the rest of the spirits. The water has to be awfully bad that will spoil some whisky.

THE truant school in Syracuse, N. Y., is in operation and promises to accomplish a great deal of good. A boy who insists upon running away from school is taken to the truant school for at least ten days. There he receives good food, a good bed, regular study hours and plenty of time for play. He goes to bed at 7:30 o'clock and rises at an early hour. After their first confinement in this truant school the truants are given another chance in the schools which they are accustomed to attend. The second sentence is more severe than the first, and so on.

AN odd advertisement is being used by an opera troupe now traveling in the south. In each town where the troupe plays the advance agent secures from the local banks \$40,000 in gold coin, putting up satisfactory securities, of course, and this amount is placed in the show window of some prominent store during the daytime. The money is thus posted to back the manager's assertion that he has "the finest living pictures on the road." This troupe to all appearances is assured of not having to return home on the ties that bind—the railway tracks.

AN investigator has discovered that there are 238 lawyers in congress, 41 farmers, 27 editors, 28 manufacturers, 1 railroad manager, 2 steamboat owners, 14 teachers and college professors, 25 bankers, 20 merchants, 1 house builder, 3 clergymen, 7 who say they are "engaged in business," 8 doctors, 1 architect, 1 music teacher, 1 owner of oil wells, 5 miners, 2 insurance agents, 1 theater manager, 1 manufacturer of ice, 3 civil engineers, 9 lumbermen, 2 owners of stone quarries, 2 real estate agents, 1 pharmacist and 1 steamboat captain.

A WELL-KNOWN Portland (Ore.) merchant has recently had illustrated to him, in the persons of two commercial travelers, great vicissitudes of fortune. One who called to solicit trade for a certain brand of catsup was once a leading merchant of Boston, and his residence, when adversity came, sold under the hammer for \$73,000. The other, who had a line of cigars, had been twice elected governor of one of the largest western states.

Old papers for sale at this office.

The Mining Craze.

There is a mining boom in Colorado that is certain to bring a great many to grief. There seems to be a great recklessness as to what is purchased, which is highly encouraging to the floaters of wildcat stocks. Letters to brokers now contain checks and drafts for from \$100 to \$1,000 worth of stocks, with no restrictions as to the kind or value to be bought. One broker at Colorado Springs received a cash order of \$30,000 for stocks, the selections to be left entirely to him. At Cripple Creek a firm of gamblers gave \$16,000 on a blind order. At Denver one hero, a stranger, called on a broker for a list of stocks that showed a speculative value. On the list being handed to him, the hero said: "That suits me," and forthwith gave an order for \$18,000 worth of cheap Cripple Creeks. It must be kept in mind all the time that these stocks are none of them based on real values. They are gambling ventures, pure and simple. The real mines, which are being worked and are paying, are not as a rule in the market. Even many of those which are represented as paying dividends are actually valueless, the dividend being a cheap device to catch the gullible. The San Francisco Argonaut points out that this business is doing infinite harm to legitimate mining. None of this money goes into it, and it keeps out money that would otherwise go in. But there will always be foolish people with money to keep alive such sharks as are engaged in these swindling speculative schemes. The accursed thirst for gold runs riot in the veins of the people.

RECENT reports contain the information that Vermont is being systematically stocked with various specimens of game birds from other states and lands, under the direction of a department of the state game commission. A few days ago a number of Mongolian pheasants, which have been introduced in several Pacific states with much success, were received at the headquarters of the commission. The birds are to be kept in confinement and the eggs distributed in various parts of the state. The eggs will be set under domestic hens, and the young pheasants will, at the proper time, be set free in the forests. A consignment of Virginia quails and sharp-tail grouse is now on its way to Vermont to be used for the same purpose.

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A PECULIAR incident occurred in New York on a recent Sunday. While a policeman of that city was trying to see what was going on in a "suspected" saloon he soiled his hands; he noticed a sink in the ante-room of the saloon, and when he turned on the faucet he was surprised to find that he was washing his hands in beer. The keeper of the saloon was, of course, arrested. Necessity is in truth the mother of invention.

A TRAVELING museum man charged his employer with stealing a raccoon and a big rattlesnake. Both "varmints" were brought into Judge Byerly's court in New York, where the rattlesnake escaped from its box. Officers, witnesses and spectators bolted out the side doors, and even Judge Byerly, a veteran soldier, fled, making his exit by the fire escape. The rattler was captured, but the case went over to allow the court to regain its nerve.

SEVENTY-SIX years is a good age for a schooner. The Julia Ann, of Winter Harbor, Me., has been in active service for that period, and is said by her captain to be even as good as she ever was. The insurance companies back up the captain's statement, too. In her long life the schooner has sailed over a good part of the world's salt water, and is well known in every harbor on the Maine coast.

AN old negro living near Waverly, Ky., the other day traded his wife to a neighbor for an old mule, a pointer dog and five dollars in cash. The woman was a willing party to the swap, and even borrowed the mule from her ex-husband to carry her to her new home. The divorce business is poor in that vicinity, no doubt.

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